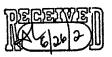
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Art Unit: 2177 First Named Applicant: Cha Examiner: Pannala 09/512,949 Serial No.: February 25, 2000 AM9-99-0217 Filed: INDEXING SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR) June 25, 2002 For: NEAREST NEIGHBOR SEARCHES IN HIGH) 750 B STREET, Suite 3120 San Diego, CA 92101 DIMENSIONAL DATA SPACES

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks Washington, DC 20231

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated June 14, 2002, please substitute the enclosed page 6, showing "JAVA" in capital letters, for originally-filed page 6.

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the "k" nearest neighbors (referred to herein as the "k" data vectors p that are closest to q) in response. The

query vector q can be, e.g., an example image for which the user wants close matches. Other applications

of k-nearest neighbor searching are contemplated herein, such as but not limited to document retrieval, data

mining, pattern classification, and machine learning.

As intended herein, either or both of the server 12/user computer 18 can be a server computer made

by International Business Machines Corporation (IBM) of Armonk, N.Y. Other digital processors, however,

may be used, such as personal computers, laptop computers, mainframe computers, palmtop computers,

personal assistants, or any other suitable processing apparatus can be used. The input device 16 can be

established by one or more of: a computer mouse, keyboards, keypads, trackballs, and voice recognition

devices. Output devices other than the monitor 22 can be used, such as printers, other computers or data

storage devices, and computer networks.

In any case, the processor of the server 12 accesses the module 14 to undertake the logic of the

present invention, which may be executed by a processor as a series of computer-executable instructions.

The instructions may be contained on a data storage device with a computer readable medium, such as a

computer diskette having a computer usable medium with a program of instructions stored thereon. Or, the

instructions may be stored on random access memory (RAM) of the computer, on a DASD array, or on

magnetic tape, conventional hard disk drive, electronic read-only memory, optical storage device, or other

appropriate data storage device. In an illustrative embodiment of the invention, the computer-executable

instructions may be lines of C or C++ or JAVA code.

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Respectfully submitted,

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JLR:jg

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